

## Featherweight Suits

No one needs 'em more than the big men. No matter what your size or proportion, we're ready.

Fabrics made to give no warmth and no weight. Designs specially becoming to larger figures. Here's big comfort for warm weather.

Suits \$10 and \$30.

A showing in black and white effects.

Shirts to match \$1 to \$5.

## Sam & Dave Gideon

The Store That Was Born With Huntington

## THE SOCIALIST & LABOR STAR

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY

Owned and published by the Socialist Printing Company (Incorporated) of Huntington West Virginia. Official organ of the Socialist Party and of the Huntington Trades & Labor Assembly, Huntington.

Business Office

2007 Seventh Avenue.

W. H. THOMPSON

EDITOR



This paper assumes no responsibility for the opinions of contributors as expressed in signed articles.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Single Subscription, per year \$1.00  
In clubs of ten or more, .75

Bundles of more than 100 of any one issue, one cent per copy.

Advertising rates made known on application. A post card to the above address will bring a representative to your place of business.

Entered at the postoffice at Huntington, West Virginia, as second-class matter, May 31, 1912, under Act of March 3, 1879.

Address all business communications to the Socialist & Labor Star, 2007 Seventh Avenue, Huntington, W. Va.

### ELLIOTT INTERVIEWED BY STAR'S EDITOR.

I had fondly hugged the fluttering hope to my fainting heart that I would never hear it again. Surely it had dropped into the dim limbo of the dead past, together with its twin idiotic jumble, "How old was Anna?" But when I was conducted into the august presence of Adjutant General Elliott it was one of the first things he sprung on me.

"Mr. Thompson," says he, and rolled his restless orbs heavenward, "those miners up there make GOOD WAGES. THE REASON THEY REMAIN POOR IS BECAUSE THEY DRINK UP THEIR EARNINGS!"

Yep, he sprung it on me. And I was so surprised that anyone would try to put that over on a man whom he would naturally suppose had at least some knowledge of present day working class conditions, that I forgot to tell him that the Mining Department's report said that the West Virginia miner draws wages only an average of \$314 per year, and of this sum he spent \$120 for rent, \$360 for groceries, \$60 for powder, oil and tools, leaving a DEFICIT of \$26 out of which he clothed his family, purchased rifles and machine guns, guzzled booze, voted the Socialist ticket and raised hell generally.

But that wasn't the only discovery Elliott had made since the government of West Virginia had passed into the department over which he presides. I spent my first hour after being released from jail in listening to the brave general while he poured accounts of things done, doing and to be done by him and the only satisfaction I got out of the interview was the knowledge that several thousands of the body lice I had accumulated during 14 days in the filthy Kanawha county jail, crawled off my clothing and on to the furniture in the general's office, and I devoutly hope that they formed a warm regard for him and annexed him.

"Mr. Thompson, you are an intelligent man" began this self-important top soldier. (He had previously told my comrades that I had a diseased brain and was a dangerous character to be at large.) "I and the governor, because that you have harkened to the wild-eyed agitators in regard to this Paint Creek trouble, (how did he know I read the Herald-Dispatch?) and you have not been all of the good things WE have done for the miners. Me, and the governor, have worked 20 hours a day in the effort to settle this strike and make the coal operators obey the law. Why, when I took charge up there those creeks were full of mine guards. I immediately banished those fellows and there hasn't been a mine guard on Paint Creek and Cabin Creek since martial law was declared! Now the strike is settled. All the miners are back at work with the exception of about 50 at one of the mines where the tippie was burned, and these will return to work just as soon as the repairs are made. We are only keeping martial law on up there now at the express request of our friends the mine workers, and if you doubt my word go right over to their headquarters and ask them."

I didn't go over and ask Elliott's "friends" at mine workers' headquarters, but I did meet the secretary of Esquire local on the street a few minutes later. "How many men of your local have not returned to work?" I asked.

"About 75," he replied.

"And is it that way all over the creek?" I questioned.

"Yes. The companies are only taking back those whom the guards pick out and vouch for."

"Guards," I cried! "Surely you are mistaken. General Elliott has just told me that there wasn't a guard on the creeks."

"Then General Elliott lied" calmly explained the secretary. There's more guards in that field now than ever before—and Elliott knows it."

Elliott, like some Socialist soap-boxers I know, has only one set speech

and he rehearsed that to each of the prisoners taken before him. We found this out when we all got together and compared notes. This speech was a part of our sentence, I presume. There was one part of it he took great pride in telling.

"We have two mine guards and a mine superintendent right down there in jail now," boasted the general. "First time that ever happened in this state. Did you see them?" I had. For fourteen days I had played cards with the two guards. They were arrested in the tenderloin at Charleston, by the city police, and sent up for carrying revolvers. Elliott was claiming credit that belonged elsewhere. As for the superintendent, Howell by name, he had been sent up by the drum head for 6 months for beating a Hungarian miner with a black jack, while two guards held the miner. The story of these two guards and a superintendent being in jail was so unusual that I notice the Socialist investigating committee has included the Elliott version in their report. They evidently were also afflicted with Elliott eloquence.

A few days after being released, I went down to the jail to see my old associates, the guards and Mr. Howell, only to be informed that they too, had been released. So the eighth wonder of the world, coal mine agents actually in jail for law breaking has disappeared. Alas! Elliott has lost a good point from that speech.

After Elliott and John Brown finish their debating tour, during which they will lecture on "Diseased Brains, Whose Got 'Em, You Or Me?" I want to meet him again and talk over our individual experiences during the Kanawha War, and especially of the time when he had 200 miners in the Bull Pen and 15 crazy Socialists, two mine guards and one mine superintendent in jail.

### A Clarion Call To All Law-Abiding Political Parties.

In its issue of May 21, the Charleston Mail, mouthpiece of the Kanawha Coal Operators' Association and of the Republican "Hog Combine," carried a leading editorial, two columns in length, under the heading, "As Regards the Socialists." We have clipped this gem and carefully pasted it in our scrap book. It should be read and re-read by all those working class donkeys who support with their votes the political parties owned by the plundering parasites who grow fat, sleek and rich by plundering the workers. The Socialists are those workmen who have come to the realization that there is absolutely no difference between the democratic party, the republican party and the progress-if party. They all stand pledged to uphold and defend the present system of exploitation of the producers by the non producers. That all these parties have a common owner has been proven by their flocking together under one banner at any point where the awakening of the workers has threatened the substitution of a working-class government for the existing rule of the rich. Therefore, the Mail's frantic call for the old parties to unite and fight Socialism in West Virginia is no surprise to the Socialist. However, it may insert into the granite-like brain of some of the dubs who vote the republican ticket "because of the party's principles," the idea that its "principles" will easily mix, fraternize or wallow with the "principles" of the hated democratic party, or vice versa, whenever the powers of government seem likely to be wrenched from the grasping talons of BOTH these political tools of the master class.

We reproduce herewith the last paragraph of the Mail's wail of fight:

We have with us now several of the national leaders of the Socialist party; we have a local Socialist over at Pittsburgh, and, presumably, other points, declaring that no law exists in the martial law territory. All this should not be without its lesson to the OLD LAW-ABIDING, LAW-OBSERVING POLITICAL PARTIES. THEY SHOULD ALL JOIN IN A COMMON MOVEMENT TO MEET AND CONQUER THE SOCIALIST PARTY just as they would prepare to meet and conquer any other enemy of their party or parties. The Socialists must draw their strength from the ranks of all political parties. If, as, for instance, Prosecuting Attorney Townsend of Kanawha county, declares: "recent developments in the industrial trouble in Kanawha county make it apparent that this conflict has become purely political in nature"—and "the only people who seem to be dissatisfied with the settlement of this strike is the Socialist party," then would it not be well for the old political parties—the Democratic, the Republican, the Progressive, parties—to not only be on their guard, but become immediately active against a further possible increase of the Socialist party in this section and State? As long as men of either party stand supinely by and do nothing to prevent, as long as Socialist labor agitators go about sowing their seeds of discord and drawing men to them through false pretenses, without effort being made to offset these teachings on the part of the old parties, it necessarily follows that there will be an increase of the anarchistic brand of Socialism of which this community has been hounded out several fair samples during recent months. The matter is one that should have the close consideration of every man who is not a Socialist, be he a Republican, a Democrat, a Progressive, a Prohibitionist, or what not. And not only the consideration—but preventive action.

Holy knee bone of St. Anne! "Old law-abiding, law-observing political parties!" But please don't laugh—the poor devils are scared. "Law-observing"—and six members of the Mail's own party, republicans whom the grand old party sent to the last legislature, are now being tried somewhere out in the hill counties, for peddling the party's "principles" around on the streets of the capital city and offering them to the highest bidder! "Drawing men to them through false pretenses!" This after Hatfield's "anti-mine guard" campaign, and the republican party's "anti-mine guard" platform plank!

But the crowding thought, the bright gem of the entire composition is "PREVENTIVE ACTION." What form shall it take? The Bill Moose armored train has been tried. Baldwin-Feltz thugs failed. Elliott's baby bantams were unavailing. All of these didn't put the fear of the old law-abiding political parties in the heart of a single socialist. Just what sort of "preventive action" shall be hatched out when all the old virtues set on the last rotten egg in the political nest of their gluttonous owners?

### THE CHEEK OF AN OLIGARCHY.

Having exercised his constitutional rights in ordering an investigation of the military usurpation in West Virginia, the United States Senate is warned by two coal operators, named Watts and Vinton, that it should keep its committee at home. Even to inquire into the Kanawha absolutism they say, is likely to "precipitate more trouble." "Can the flame of public sentiment to white heat" and "lead to fresh outbreaks."

Coming from the mining oligarchy in whose behalf the government of an American State has been subverted, this threat had results directly the reverse of what was intended. Senators Swanson and Borah of the Committee were duly surprised and impressed, but their response was that in this case the committee must proceed to West Virginia "at the earliest possible day." The first meeting therefore, will be held in Charleston on June 19th, at 2 P. M., regardless of consequences. It is well to settle this matter promptly. If there is a State in the Union where a committee of Congress cannot hear witnesses in peace and safety, a considerable section of the United States Army may as well begin its maneuvers at once. A Government that flinched before such a challenge as this would be more contemptible than the one in West Virginia which it is proposed to investigate.—Editorial, New York World, Friday, June 6th, 1913.

### MORE LAWS?

After hearing a few witnesses in regard to military operations on Paint Creek, one of the Senators who comprise the investigating committee now in session at Charleston, declared: "There will be some new laws passed by the Senate when we return." It appears to the casual onlooker that "new laws" are not exactly what is needed. A little respect for those we have, on the part of officials sworn to uphold them would fill the bill.

### 'SMATTER?

The Howling-Distract carried a daily arraignment of Socialism in general and the Huntington brand in particular, during all the time The Star was suppressed, even going so far as to criminally libel this paper and its owners. Since we have "come back" not one "wild-eyed agitating" editorial has appeared and instead the editor has returned to his fawning praise of the Huntington churches.

'Smatter?

### Socialist Meeting.

Last Sunday afternoon in Jr. O. U. A. M. Hall, Local Huntington Socialist party of West Virginia elected officers for the ensuing six months. The following officers were elected: Recording Secretary, Ed Firth; Financial Secretary, R. M. Keplart; Treasurer, Mrs. Snow; Organizer, G. W. Gillispie; Lit. Agent, Francis Notter; Trustees, W. H. Thompson, W. R. Taylor, R. M. Keplart.

The affairs of the Labor Star were thoroughly discussed and at the close of the meeting seven stockholders of the Socialist Printing Co. called for a regular meeting of the stockholders of the Socialist Printing Co. Thursday June 12 at which the plans for future action will be mapped out.

An earnest call for organization in West Virginia was made by various members and it was decided to give co-operative assistance to the State office in this respect.

### Socialist Elected

#### In Ronceverte.

Ronceverte, W. Va.—In the city election held here June 5, Comrade J. H. Hammick was elected councilman from the Fourth Ward. The entire ticket ran second. Hammick is a blacksmith. The Socialist movement here is flourishing and we expect to carry the entire county at the next election. H. F. Link.

Socialist books and periodicals on sale at The Star office. Mail orders receive prompt attention.

### The Western Comrade.

June number just sizzling off the press. Full of Socialist—making propaganda. It's the one best bet in the Socialist magazine world. Buy single copies; buy it in bundles; buy it NOW! About Jack London

What do you know about Jack London? One of the stories in this number tells you some intimate things about this great Socialist author. Emmanuel Julius has written the story. It's a jim dandy.

Anna Maley, R. A. Maynard, Stanley B. Wilson, Chester M. Wright and a half dozen other star writers have made this magazine a regular magazine-gun number. You can't miss with it.

We have "put it across" in this number. Send a dime today for a single copy; send a dollar for a bristling, sizzling, whooping, sunshiny year of the best Socialist magazine in the country.—The Western Comrade.

Box 135, Los Angeles, Cal.

## Schade's

Dairy Lunch Room

The Little Store Around the Corner where you always get the best of everything. We have a complete line of

Cigars and Tobacco

Ice Cream and Candies

Sandwiches of All Kind

near Eighth Ave. and 20th St.

Barfoot Sandals And Skuffers For The Children

They are Cool and Comfortable

Broh's Walk-Over Shoe Store 935 Third Avenue

## The Smith Shoery For Shoes

They Always Carry a Full Line of The Latest and Best UNION-MADE SHOES

939 3rd Ave. Smith Shoery 939 3rd Ave.

### TO CRUSH SOCIALISM IN WEST VIRGINIA

Comrades: WE WANT YOU TO FIGHT WITH US IN THE WEST VIRGINIA COAL FIELDS. Local Charleston of the Socialist Party, with the co-operation of the State Secretary has organized a State wide Free speech and FREE PRESS fight, against the military of Governor Hatfield and his military guards.

A BLANKET INJUNCTION HAS BEEN SERVED ON SOCIALISM IN GENERAL. Two of our Socialist papers have been confiscated and their editors and writers: Charles H. Brown, Fred H. Merrick, W. H. Thompson, jailed.

Socialist presses were destroyed by military ordered. All Socialist papers are prohibited on the newsstands. The only passport for "Russianized" West Virginia is to promise that one will not write or speak a word about Socialism. IS HERE.

Comrades: THE WAR IS ON! WE CALL TO ARMS! WE NEED YOUR HELP! LET US UNITE!

We appeal for funds. Socialist literature must be distributed. We appeal for speakers. Though we have no money, we will do our best and jail board is cheap.

LET THOSE WHO CAN JOIN OUR FIGHT, COME HERE TO SPEAK AND ORGANIZE.

We can use all the men and women speakers. We will send the necessary information on the capitalist oppression of this state. Raise funds for the fight.

### OUR FIGHT IS YOURS!

COME NOW! LEND A HAND AND WITH YOUR SUPPORT WE WILL WIN THIS BATTLE AGAINST "MILITARISM" AND LATEST WEAPON OF ORGANIZED GREED.

Issued by the Committee on organization of the Charleston, W. Va.

SOCIALIST AND LABOR PAPERS PLEASE COPY. All mail should be sent to P. M. Higgins, 108 Third Street, Charleston, W. Va.

### All Men Are Created Equal.

We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are LIFE, LIBERTY and the PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS; that, TO SECURE these rights, GOVERNMENTS ARE INSTITUTED among men, DERIVING their JUST POWERS FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED. WHEN ANY FORM OF GOVERNMENT BECOMES DESTROYIVE OF THESE ENDS, IT IS THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO ALTER OR ABOLISH IT, and TO INSTITUTE A NEW GOVERNMENT, LAYING ITS FOUNDATION ON SUCH PRINCIPLES, AND ORIGINATING ITS POWERS IN SUCH FORM, AS TO THEM SHALL SEEM MOST LIKELY TO EFFECT THEIR SAFETY AND HAPPINESS.—From the Declaration of Independence.

## Don't Fail

Many an individual makes a complete failure of his inability to say NO to himself.

No factor is more efficient in strengthening the faculty of self-command in a financial account than an account with this bank.

Come in and open a savings account, we will bank one of our little saving banks which will be a great help to you.

3 Per Cent. Interest on Savings

### Huntington National Bank

Corner Tenth Street and Third Avenue

## Bargains For You

Clothing, Shoes and Everything in the Ready-to-Wear Line. Call and see the Difference in Price.

## Hirschmans

Corner Stores

Fourth Ave. & Seventh St. :--: Huntington, W. Va.

## E. D. Cline's Grocery

1915 Eighth Avenue

Dealer in

Fancy Groceries, Country Produce, Feed and Flour

Delivered to Any Part of the City